



NEWS RELEASE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SIOUX FALLS

Contact: Todd Heitkamp
(605) 330-4247

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 20, 2013**

MAY 25th IS NOAA WEATHER RADIO ALL HAZARDS AWARENESS DAY

Sponsored by the National Weather Service offices serving Nebraska, May 25th is NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Awareness Day in Nebraska. This is the 1st annual NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Awareness campaign by these offices.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards is a service provided by the National Weather Service and is known as the “Voice of the National Weather Service”. It provides continuous broadcasts of the latest weather information and forecasts from your local National Weather Service office. More importantly, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts critical and lifesaving warning information within seconds of issuance!

With NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, you will always have access to potentially life-saving emergency information. During severe weather, National Weather Service personnel can interrupt routine weather broadcasts and insert warning messages concerning immediate threats to life and property. A special alert tone can also be activated that triggers an alarm tone on specially equipped receivers. In the simplest case, this signal activates audible or visual alarms indicating that an emergency condition exists within the broadcast area of the station. In the most sophisticated alerting system, receivers equipped with Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) technology allow listeners to choose a specific county and what weather threats their radio will sound an alarm for when official NWS watches and warnings are issued night or day.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts watches, warnings, statements and weather information for all types of hazards, including natural (such as tornadoes or floods), environmental (such as chemical releases), and public safety (such as AMBER alerts or 911 telephone outages). Working with other Federal and local agencies, NOAA Weather Radio is an

“all hazards” radio network. This makes NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards the single source for the most comprehensive weather and emergency information available to the public.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards provides the timeliest forecast and warning information from your servicing National Weather Service office. This information can save your life! Please take the time to learn more about NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards. More information is available from your local National Weather Service office Web site: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/fsd> or visit the National Weather Service’s NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards Web Site: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr>

NOAA WEATHER RADIO ALL HAZARDS FACTS

- NOAA Weather Radio Broadcasts:
 - o NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts watches, warnings, statements, and forecast information for all types of hazards, both natural and technological.
 - o NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards is a round-the-clock source of weather. Routine weather information is normally repeated every 4 to 6 minutes, 24 hours a day.
 - o The routine broadcasts are specifically tailored to the weather needs of our listeners within the service area of our transmitters.
- NOAA Weather Radio National Infrastructure:
 - o Broadcasts from over 1000 stations across the United States.
 - o VHF band, ranging from 162.400 to 162.550 megahertz (MHz). These frequencies are outside the normal AM or FM broadcast bands.
- NOAA Weather Radio Reception:
 - o By nature and design, NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards coverage is limited to an area within 40 miles of the transmitter.
 - o The quality of the signal depends on such things as distance from the transmitter, terrain, and the quality of the receiver.
- Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) is the primary activator for the Emergency Alert System.
- NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards capability is currently available on some automobiles, aircraft, marine, citizens band, and standard AM/FM radios.